AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1.(currently amended): ~~A transmitter,~~ Network equipment provided for a transmission line of a backbone network, within which a band is assigned for an IP data network, said network equipment comprising:

a detection part for detecting an identifier in received data from the IP data network for identifying a band use ~~to be received~~;

an identifier setting part for previously setting an identifier for identifying an expected band use; and

a control part for monitoring the detection part and the identifier setting part in each minimum unit of a path line, wherein

the control part periodically monitors the detected identifier for identifying the band use ~~to be received in the~~ in a previously defined band, and when the ~~received~~ detected identifier is different from the previously set identifier for identifying the expected band use, the control part resets the previously set identifier ~~for identifying the expected band use is re-established as~~ with the detected identifier for identifying the band use ~~to be received~~.

2.(currently amended): The [[transmitter]] network equipment according to claim 1, further comprising:

a fault detection part for detecting a path fault, wherein

when the previously set identifier for identifying the expected band use is ~~re-established as~~ reset with the detected identifier ~~for identifying the band use to be received~~, an alarm of an LOP (Loss of Pointer) which is detected by the fault detection part is masked.

3.(currently amended): The [[transmitter]] network equipment according to claim 1, further comprising:

a fault detection part for storing trace information to be transmitted from a terminal point in each minimum unit of the path line, and ~~when the fault detection part~~ for detecting [[the]] a path fault ~~is provided, and the identifier for identifying the expected band use is re-established as the identifier for identifying the band use to be received, for identifying~~ of a change of [[the]] use within the band or an error cross-connection according to presence or absence of a change of the trace information.

4.(currently amended): The [[transmitter]] network equipment according to claim 1, wherein

the control part notices to a maintainer when an accumulated bit error number, an error generation second number, and an error generation second number of a fixed value or more in a predetermined period reach a predetermined value or over.

5.(currently amended): The [[transmitter]] network equipment according to claim 4, further comprising:

means for judging a bit error number of a path line according to the identifier for identifying [[the]] a judged band use.